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BRIEFS

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Libya:

Libyan President Qadhafi's speech Thursday commemorating the eighth anniversary of the Libyan revolution focused on his country's accomplishments and on consolidating political gains he has achieved in his continuing dispute with Egypt.

In discussing Egypt, Qadhafi avoided extreme rhetoric, by Libyan standards, and again portrayed Libya as the aggrieved party in the recent dispute between the two countries. He said the recent border clashes were a tragedy for both the Libyan and Egyptian people that was caused by an unnamed "criminal," an obvious reference to Egyptian President Sadat.

On Middle East issues, Qadhafi declared his unwavering support for those Arabs and Palestinians who reject peace negotiations with Israel. He appealed for greater Arab unity and warned against a US-Israeli conspiracy to destroy Arab military power. Qadhafi claimed that the presence of the Syrian army in Lebanon and of Egypt's forces along Libya's border resulted from this conspiracy.

Qadhafi criticized the US, but did not mention the USSR or Cuba.

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